



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: John M. Egnor  
Serial No. 08/828,560  
Filed: 03/31/97  
For: STOP FOR EQUIPMENT POSITIONING

:  
: Group Art Unit: 3613  
:  
: Examiner: Graham, M.  
:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

DECLARATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.132

Dear Sir:

Michael Whitty, declares as follows:

1. I, Michael Whitty, am currently employed as Shift Engineer in Facilities Management at the Foxwoods Casino Resort in Mashantucket. I have been so employed in that position for approximately five (5) years.

2. I believe that there is a definite need for the proposed invention of John M. Egnor.

3. Through my office at the Foxwoods, we have attempted to solve the problem which Mr. Egnor's invention would solve. We have been unsuccessful in doing so.

4. Mr. Egnor's invention would solve the problem of restraining all of our commercial cooking equipment. This is critical for safety reasons. Much of this equipment involves use of hot surfaces and/or superheated oil. It is critical for the safety of our workers that this equipment remain in place so that they do not get burned if the equipment is bumped or moved. Mr. Egnor's invention would solve this problem.

*new wheels  
would solve*

5. It is also necessary that our equipment stay in place so that it remain within a certain distance from fire suppression equipment. NFPA Code requires certain tolerances so that our fire suppression equipment will work in an emergency. This is a major safety concern because it is essential that the fire suppression equipment operate when needed. Mr. Egnor's invention would also solve this problem.

6. New industry standards require that all equipment be on wheels for sanitary reasons. It is necessary for the equipment to be restrained for safety reasons and fire suppression reasons.

7. At Foxwoods we have had documented fires where our fire suppression equipment did not operate because the equipment was not in the proper place. Mr. Egnor's invention would ensure that all of our equipment would always be returned to the proper location.

8. At Foxwoods we have had documented burn injuries from the splashing of superheated oil due to equipment moving. Mr. Egnor's invention would not allow equipment to move and would therfore solve the problem.

9. I believe that Mr. Egnor's invention is a great concept and is of necessity in our industry.

10. I further declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the above referenced application or any patent issuing thereon.

DATED: 1/26/99

  
MICHAEL WHITTY

Signed and Sworn before me on  
this 26<sup>th</sup> Day of Jan, 1999.

Marie D. Marcheterre

Sworn and Subscribed to Before Me This  
26<sup>th</sup> Day of Jan 1999

**MARIE D. MARCHETERRE**  
NOTARY PUBLIC  
My Commission Expires Sept. 30, 2000



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DECLARATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.132

Dear Sir:

Louis Endsley, declares as follows:

1. I, Louis Endsley, am currently employed as Director of Facilities Design and Construction at the Showboat Casino in Atlantic City. I have been so employed in that position for approximately six (6) years.

2. I was previously employed in the Engineering Department at the Golden Nugget of Atlantic City for approximately five (5) years.

3. I have been employed in Engineering/Facilities Design and Construction for approximately the past eleven (11) years.

4. I believe that there is a definite need for the proposed invention of John M. Egnor.

5. Through my office at the Showboat, we have attempted to solve the problem which Mr. Egnor's invention would solve. We have come up with a crude gatehook/eyebolt device that would solve the problem which Mr. Egnor's invention would also solve.

6. However, the device which we have come up with to solve the problem is not useable behind all of our equipment as it does not fit all of the equipment.

7. Mr. Egnor's invention would solve the problem of restraining all of our commercial cooking equipment. This is critical for safety reasons. Much of this equipment involves use of hot surfaces and/or superheated oil. It is critical for the safety of our workers that this equipment remain in place so that they do not get burned if the equipment is bumped or moved. Mr. Egnor's invention would solve this problem.

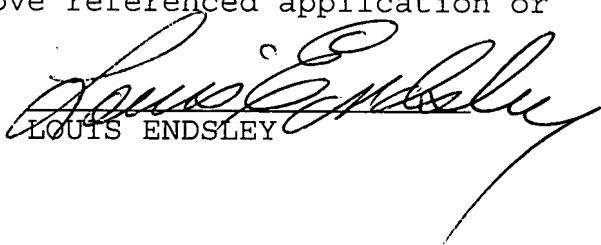
8. It is also necessary that our equipment stay in place so that it remain within a certain distance from fire suppression equipment. This is required by law under fire safety code. Mr. Egnor's invention would also solve this problem.

9. New industry standards require that all equipment be on wheels for sanitary reasons. It is necessary for the equipment to be restrained for safety reasons and fire suppression reasons as I have stated. We have tried to solve the problem which Mr. Egnor's invention would solve and have been unsuccessful in solving it to our satisfaction.

10. I believe that Mr. Egnor's invention is a great concept and is of necessity in our industry.

11. I further declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the above referenced application or any patent issuing thereon.

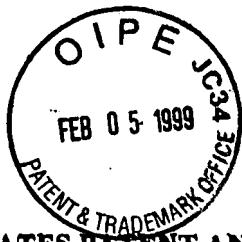
DATED: 1/6/99

  
LOUIS ENDSLEY

Signed and Sworn before me on  
this 6th Day of January, 1999.

MARCI A. HOMOVICH

MARCI A. HOMOVICH  
NOTARY PUBLIC OF NEW JERSEY  
My Commission Expires Sept. 19, 1999



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Washington, D.C. 20231

DECLARATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.132

Dear Sir:

Wallace Shields, declares as follows:

1. I, Wallace Shield, am currently employed as Fire Protection, Subcode Officer in the Construction Division for the city of Atlantic City, New Jersey. I have been so employed in that position for approximately six (6) years.
2. I was previously employed in as Fire Protection, Subcode Officer for Egg Harbor township New Jersey for approximately twelve (12) years.
3. I have been employed in capacities requiring extensive knowledge of National, State, and Local Fire Protection codes, including code requirement in kitchen fire detection and suppression, for the past eighteen (18) years.
4. I believe that there is a definite need for the proposed invention of John M. Egnor.
5. Through my duties as code officer, I have observed a high percentage of kitchen equipment being incorrectly positioned, by distance and alignment, with respect to fixed fire suppression system. Even in cases of new facility designs, where one would expect an installation to be controlled in a knowledgeable manner, well over fifty percent of the facilities failed in proper positioning and alignment of commercial cooking equipment to the fire system. Mr. Egnor's invention would solve this problem.
6. Likewise, in cases of routine in-field inspections, well over fifty percent of facilities failed to properly maintain configuration control of kitchen equipment relative to the fire suppression systems. Mr. Egnor's invention would solve this problem.
7. Most facilities rely on kitchen workers to move and clean the cooking equipment of concern, these individuals are generally not trained in the art of fire

protection code requirements, and are therefore would be advantaged in ensuring proper placement of the equipment by the invention of John M. Egnor.

8. Improper cooking equipment placement results in fire protection code violations. The facilities involved are cited and have to taken remedial measures to redress the problem. If the condition is not properly addressed in a timely manner the facility is subject to financial penalties and/or cessation of operation until resolved. In either case causing hardship to the operator of the facility. Mr. Egnor's invention would alleviate this hardship.

9. Further, most facilities have fire insurance. Violations of code can result in an evaluation of increased risk with resultant increase of insurance premium cost. Mr. Egnor's invention would increase the likelihood of the fire protection system's effectiveness thereby reducing fire risks.

10. Properly positioned fire protection equipment is critical for the prompt suppression of fires. Mr. Egnor's invention provides an effective and simple means to ensure proper placement of commercial cooking equipment thereby greatly benefiting in overall kitchen fire personnel and facility safety.

11. In my eighteen (18) years as a fire protection code enforcement officer, I have not seen a device that has solved this industry problem. I believe that Mr. Egnor's invention is a great original concept and is of necessity in the commercial kitchen industry.

12. I would support fire protection code changes that would require the use of Mr. Egnor's invention because of the historical problem in the industry and the long felt need to resolve this fire protection hazard.

13. I further declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statement made on information and belief are believed true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the above referenced application or any patent issuing thereon.

DATED:



WALLACE SHIELDS

Signed and Sworn before me on  
this 5<sup>th</sup> Day of Fe b , 1999

QUEEN TORIAN-WOODS  
NOTARY PUBLIC OF NEW JERSEY  
My Commission Expires Oct 28, 2001

